

those we entrust to expand the minds of our children, our teachers.

Ruth Ann was the embodiment of excellence and enthusiasm. She inspired her students and colleagues. She was what every parent would want for their children—a person with great ability, who loved children and enriched their lives and shaped their future and, in turn, our country's future.

Her love of politics was a joy to behold. She was a leader—by example, by conviction, by courage, and by extraordinary competence.

Ruth Ann Hall was, in sum, one of those very special people who make a difference. She was a good and decent person, whose goals and ideals motivated her actions. I extend my deepest sympathy to Ruth Ann's husband, Bob; her parents George and Anna Collier, her brother George Collier, Jr., her son and daughter-in-law, Bruce and Laura Ann Johnson, and her granddaughters, Kaitlyn and Eryn Johnson. Ruth Ann Hall will be remembered as an outstanding teacher, a loving wife and mother, and a very special friend to all who knew her.

HONORING LEIGH MORRIS

HON. TIM ROEMER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 1999

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, there is a common question asked in theoretical science that has also become part of the political lexicon. And I think I have the answer. The question is "What happens when an irresistible force meets an immovable object?" The answer is "Leigh Morris."

I say this because Leigh is both. He has been a tireless worker for our community and a vortex of organized activity to advance health care quality. And he has also been a stoic, standing rock-solid in his insistence on excellence, community participation and vision for the future.

Although we consider Leigh our own in northern Indiana, he is nationally recognized for his expertise and abilities in health care management and planning. I must also add that Leigh is equally well-known for his grace, courtesy and intellect.

Leigh Morris has served in his capacity as President of LaPorte Hospital, which is now known as the LaPorte Hospital Regional Health System, for twenty-one years. His stewardship at the helm has steered through some very rough times, and some very good ones. And he will be leaving at a time of very positive growth and success. We will know in the future that the good health of our hospital system was due in part to Leigh's planning and foresight.

Although his dedication to the LaPorte Hospital is the counterpiece of Leigh's career, he will also be remembered for his leadership at the Indiana Hospital Association and the American Hospital Association. He has brought his unique vision to hospitals, administrators and providers throughout the nation, and I know they are as grateful for his gifts as we Hoosiers are.

Mr. Speaker, Leigh has impacted our community in many ways beyond the health care system. He has been involved in other quality of life issues, fighting for superior education,

pulling for economic development, laboring to bring enriching cultural experiences to our citizens, young and old.

Many have expressed concern that we are somehow "losing" Leigh Morris due to his retirement. I think otherwise. Leigh is not leaving us, rather he enters a new chapter in his life. I know that he will find new and interesting ways to bring added life and zest to our community: in health care, in business and in all ways. I am pleased to be able to join his wife Marcia and his family in sharing the pride and admiration I know they must feel at this important time.

Mr. Speaker, some among us are leaders, some are healers, and some are teachers. Leigh Morris is all of these. He has preserved the health of so many, kindled the imagination of more, and inspired everyone. For all he has done, he deserves recognition and reward.

For who he is, his own work was reward enough.

13TH ANNUAL NATIONAL GIRLS AND WOMEN IN SPORTS DAY

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 1999

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor all girls and women who participate in sports by recognizing the 13th annual National Girls and Women in Sports Day, February 4, 1999.

This year's theme, "All Girls Allowed," reminds us we all should have an equal chance to participate in sports regardless of gender. In my youth women were discouraged from team sports and were looked down upon if active in an individual sport. "All Girls Allowed" characterizes how far we've come. But there is more to do. This day grants us a special time to remember past and current achievements, and reflect on the continuing struggle for equality in sports.

In 1987, a Congressional Resolution created National Girls and Women in Sports Day to celebrate the achievements of Olympic volleyball player Flo Hyman and to recognize her work to assure equality for women's sports. Today we take this day to celebrate the achievements of all girls and women in sports. Communities such as mine around the country observe this day with events, luncheons, awards banquets, and parades.

We can all call to mind significant women in sports who have paved the way for others including the high-profile tennis match when Billie Jean King defeated Bobby Riggs, or the recent emergency of the Women's National Basketball Association. Because of the leadership of these women, there are more sports opportunities today than there were 25 years ago. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits sex discrimination from extra-curricular activities—including sports—in federally assisted education programs. One in three girls in high school now participate in athletics. As a former educator, I have seen firsthand the value athletics has played in building self-esteem, establishing confidence and leadership skills in young women.

In the 5th District, the Women's Intersport Network for Kansas City (WIN for KC) is sponsoring a luncheon to honor local girls and

women that have achieved significant goals in sports. WIN for KC was established to promote sports participation opportunities and recognition for girls and women in the Greater Kansas City area. Olympic gold medalist in gymnastics Shannon Miller will deliver the keynote address to encourage and support fellow athletes. This year's Kansas City award winners include Heather Burroughs for USA Track and Field, Janet Calandro for Spirit, Peggy Donovan for Senior Sportswoman of the Year, Linda Jones for Coach of the Year, Jean Nearing for Physically Challenged Sports-woman of the Year, Lauren Powers for Courage, and Jennifer Waterman for Mentor of the Year.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating the 13th annual National Girls and Women in Sports Day, congratulate every individual for their dedication and efforts, and thank them for paving the way for other women.

THE HAWAII FEDERAL MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PERCENTAGE AD- JUSTMENT ACT OF 1999

HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 1999

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to re-introduce legislation to adjust the State of Hawaii's Federal medical assistance percentage [FMAP] rate. The intent of this bill is to more fairly reflect the ability of the state to bear its share of Medicaid payments. I am happy to have my colleague, Representative PATSY MINK, as a cosponsor of this measure. I am also pleased that our Hawaii Senators, Senator DANIEL AKAKA and Senator DANIEL INOUE, have introduced similar legislation in the Senate, S. 264.

The FMAP, or Federal share of the medical assistance expenditures under each state's Medicaid program, is determined annually by a formula that compares a state's average per capita income level with the national income average. States with a higher per capita income level are reimbursed a smaller share of their Medicaid costs. By law, the FMAP cannot be lower than 50 percent nor higher than 83 percent. In 1997, the FMAPs varied from 50 percent to 77.2 percent, with Hawaii receiving the lowest 50 percent rate.

Alaska was another state receiving the lowest FMAP rate in 1997. However, in the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, a provision increasing Alaska's FMAP rate to 59.8 percent for the next 3 years was included. Language in the Balanced Budget Act also mentioned that the same conditions warranting an increase in Alaska's FMAP rate applied to the State of Hawaii. The legislation that I am introducing today would conform Hawaii's rate with Alaska's. This bill would increase Hawaii's FMAP rate from 50 percent to 59.8 percent.

The rationale for the FMAP change is quite simple. Hawaii's high cost of living skews the per capita income determining factor. Based on 1995 United States Census data, the cost of living in Honolulu is 83 percent higher than the average of the metropolitan areas. More recent studies have shown that for the state as a whole, the cost of living is more than one-third higher than the rest of the United States. In fact, Hawaii's Cost of Living Index

ranks as the highest in the country. If per capita income is measured in real terms, the State of Hawaii ranks 47th at \$19,755 compared to the national average of \$24,231 (according to the twenty-first edition of "The Federal Budget and the States," a joint study conducted by the Taubman Center for State and Local Government at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government and the office of Senator DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN). Thus, Hawaii's 50 percent FMAP rate is understated because cost of living factors are not considered. Per capita income is a poor measure of Hawaii's relative ability to bear the cost of Medicaid services.

Some government programs take the high cost of living in Hawaii into account and funding is adjusted accordingly. These programs include Medicaid prospective payment rates, food stamp allocations, school lunch programs, housing insurance limits, Federal employee salaries, and military living expenses. These examples show a Federal recognition that the higher cost of living in noncontiguous states should be taken into account in fashioning government program policies. It is time for similar recognition of this factor in gauging Hawaii's ability to support its health care programs. It is time to pass my bill increasing Hawaii's FMAP from 50 percent to 59.8 percent.

Setting a higher match rate as was done for Alaska would still leave Hawaii with a lower FMAP rate than a majority of the states. However, the higher rate would better recognize Hawaii's ability to pay its fair share of the costs of the Medicaid program and I am committed to achieving it.

TRIBUTE TO FIRST SERGEANT
DANIEL L. JENNINGS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 1999

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I stand here before you today to honor a man who without his efforts, my existence in Congress may not have been a reality. Daniel L. Jennings was born to the late Samuel Rufus and Rosie Lillie Jennings on November 19, 1936 in Claiborne County, Mississippi. He attended school in Memphis, Tennessee, St. Louis, Missouri, and Fort St. Louis Community College. He also attended the University of Puget Sound in the state of Washington and Jackson State University in Jackson, Mississippi.

First Sergeant Jennings served 21 years of active duty in the United States Army where he retired as one of the most decorated soldiers of the Vietnam War. He received the Silver Star, Bronze Star, two Purple Hearts, the Army Commendation Medal and the Cross for Gallantry.

First Sergeant Jennings was indeed a "community concerned citizen." He served as President of the MS Christian Missionary Convention from 1992 until present, past President of the Claiborne County Board of Education, President of the Claiborne County Branch of the NAACP, President of the Claiborne County Democratic Party and County Coordinator for my reelection to Congress Campaign. He also worked at my Alma Mater, Hinds Agricultural High School in Utica, MS as the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps instructor for 17

years. First Sergeant Jennings died Sunday, January 17, 1999 at his residence in Port Gibson, MS.

Mr. Speaker, First Sergeant Jennings will be sorely missed. It is indeed reassuring to know that he is going to a better place. His efforts and services to the Second Congressional District of Mississippi will be remembered for eternity. There will never be another like him.

TRIBUTE TO EVELYN WATSON

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 1999

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Evelyn Watson, an outstanding individual who has dedicated her life to public service and education. She was honored by parents, family, friends, and professionals for her outstanding contributions to the community at a January 29 dinner marking her retirement as Executive Director of East Tremont Head Start.

Mrs. Watson was born on September 10, 1925 in Beckley, West Virginia. She received her certificate in Community Organization in 1972, her AAS from New York University in 1974 and her BSW from the same university in 1975.

She started her career as a Units Clerk at the New York State Employment from 1955-1962. From 1967 to 1969 she worked as a Family Assistant with Head Start. From 1969 to 1974 she was a Lay Associate LCA at Messiah Lutheran Church. In 1976 she joined East Tremont Head Start.

Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Watson has been a pillar of our Bronx Community for more than thirty years. She dedicated almost twenty five years of her life to the Head Start community, working at East Tremont Head Start. Her first position was Family Assistant. She served as Acting Director before ascending to Executive Director. Presently, East Tremont Head Start is comprised of six sites, all operating under Mrs. Watson's diligent and dedicated leadership.

It is a privilege for me to represent the 16th congressional district of New York, where East Tremont Head Start is located. I have witnessed first-hand the exemplary work they are doing for our community, and I am deeply impressed. I am very proud of their accomplishments.

Evelyn Watson retired on January 29 after a fruitful career in public service. Mrs. Watson left us with many lessons learned in community service, leadership in education, and wisdom. A talented leader and educator, Mrs. Watson will continue sharing her knowledge and views with her family, including three children, five grandchildren, and two great grandchildren, and her friends.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Evelyn Watson for her outstanding achievements in education and her enduring commitment to the community.

HONORING BETTY BROWN

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 1999

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to an extraordinary wife, mother, and citizen recently named 1998 Carpinterian of the Year: Betty Brown.

Betty began her years of exemplary service in Carpinteria, California as a member and leader of the Eastern Star, a service organization and social group where she assumed the role of Worthy Matron in 1965. In the 1960's, Betty served as a mother advisor for the Rainbow Girls and continued to be a role model for young women. This devotion was seen in her involvement with the Children's Home Society, which helped unwed mothers and orphans with family counseling and adoption services. Betty was actively involved in the Carpinteria auxiliary called Los Chiquitos.

Betty's commitment to advancing the success and happiness of adolescent girls was again evident through her commitment to Girls Incorporated of Carpinteria. She was a critical force in the Girls, Inc. building project, dedicating countless hours to raising funds for the new facility. Betty has also served as a national member of the Board of Trustees for Girls, Inc.

The Carpinteria Community Church, Carpinteria Rotary Club, the Carpinteria Republican Women, the Carpinteria Women in Agriculture and the American Heart Association have all benefited from Betty's desire to serve her community.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Betty Brown for her extraordinary service to young women and the Carpinteria community, and honor her as the 1998 Carpinterian of the Year.

KEEP BART-TO-SFO ON TRACK

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 1999

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share a recent editorial that appeared in the San Francisco Chronicle about the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) extension to the San Francisco International Airport (SFO), also known as the BART SFO Extension. This editorial strongly endorses the existing program and plans for extension of BART to the airport and Millbrae.

The BART SFO Extension will connect the 95-mile, four county intermodal rail transit system of the Bay Area to the rapidly growing San Francisco International Airport. Four new stations will provide service to the airport and cities on the Peninsula offering millions of travelers fast and convenient connections to and from the airport and the greater metropolitan San Francisco Bay Area. The BART SFO Extension will improve mobility, productivity and economic opportunity, while alleviating traffic congestion and air pollution throughout the Bay Area.

Mr. Speaker, I think it is important to point out that 70 percent, or \$2 billion, of the overall BART Extension program, which includes three extensions in the East Bay and the